

## CHAPTER 1 SECTION 11.1

### BOTULINUM TOXIN A INJECTIONS

Issue Date: October 12, 1984

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#### I. PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

64612, 64613, 64640, 67345, 90782 and 90799

#### II. DESCRIPTION

These procedures involve the injection of small amounts of botulinum toxin type A (available in the United States under the trade name BOTOX®) into selected muscles for the nonsurgical correction and/or reduction of the conditions of spasticity, various dystonias, nerve disorders, and muscular tonicity deviations.

#### III. POLICY

Botulinum toxin A injections may be considered for cost-sharing for treating chronic spasticity, cervical dystonia (spasmodic torticollis), laryngeal dystonia (adductor spasmodic dysphonia), oromandibular (jaw-closing) dystonia. It may also be considered for cost-sharing for treating blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm, and strabismus in patients 12 years of age and older.

#### IV. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to cost-sharing, contractors must ensure that an adequate clinical investigation has failed to identify a correctable cause of the dystonia, spasticity or disorder.

#### V. EXCLUSIONS

Botulinum toxin is not approved for Wilson's disease, metabolic and neurodegenerative disorders, and mental disorders. It is also not approved for task-specific dystonias (also known as occupational dystonias), common to persons who perform repetitive tasks, such as writers, athletes and musicians.

#### VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

A. For blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm and strabismus: December 29, 1989.

B. For cervical, laryngeal, and oromandibular dystonia: November 14, 1990.

C. For chronic spasticity: July 12, 1996.

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